

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 EB-07 TRSE-00 CIAE-00  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9109  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 4826

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

EO 11652GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PL  
SUBJ: RECENT WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS

REF: A. WARSAW 4380, B. WARSAW 4638

1. SUMMARY: WE HAVE RECEIVED A WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE (WDC) STATEMENT, DATED JULY 5, WHICH ARGUES THAT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE ARE NECESSARY FOR THE REALIZATION OF THE HELSINKI PRINCIPLES. WE ALSO HAVE THE ELEVENTH COMMUNIQUE OF THE WDC, DATED JUNE 30, WHICH REPORTS REDUCED WDC ACTIVITY AND CONTINUED POLICH HARASSMENT. COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING POUCHED TO ALAN THOMPSON IN EUR/EE. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE STATEMENT OF JULY 5 ASSERTS THAT THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN EFFECTIVE IN THREE MAJOR AREAS: A) STIMULATING SOCIAL ACTIVITY INDEPENDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT; B) BREAKING THE OFFICIAL MONOPOLY ON INFORMATION; AND C) THWARTING OFFICIAL EFFORTS TO CREATE BARRIERS DIVIDING SOCIETY. THE AUTHORS OF THE STATEMENT SAY THAT INDEPENDENT SOCIAL ACTIVITY BEGAN WITH POPULAR DISCUSSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES PROPOSED

AT THE END OF 1975. THEY ASSERT THAT THE SOCIAL ACTION SUPPORTED BY THE WDC IS IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW AND IS AN INHERENT HUMAN RIGHT. THIS SOCIAL ACTION HAS ENDED THE ISOLATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL VIS-A-VIS THE STATE IN POLAND. THE AUTHORS REVIEW THE MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST WDC MEMBERS, INCLUDING ACCUSATIONS IN THE MASS MEDIA THAT WDC ACTIVITIES SUPPORT ENEMIES OF POLAND AND DETENTE. THEY ASSERT THAT THE AUTHORITIES ACTED BECAUSE THEY FELT THREATENED BY THE WDC'S SUCCESS IN UNITING WORKERS AND INTELLECTUALS IN A COMMON MOVEMENT FOR WORKERS' RIGHTS AND FREE SPEECH. THEY SAY THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI PRINCIPLES WILL BE ASSURED WHEN THEY AFFECT NOT ONLY NATIONAL LEADERS, BUT ALSO SOCIETIES WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE NOT SUPPRESSED. OTHERWISE, THE AUTHORS CONCLUDE, SOCIETY IS LIKELY TO REACT IN UNPREDICTABLE AND UNCONTROLLABLE WAYS, CREATING THREATS TO INTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL PEACE. THE AUTHORS CONCLUDE THAT REPRESSION OF WDC ACTIVITIES WILL JEOPARDIZE REALIZATION OF THE HELSINKI PRINCIPLES.

3. COMMUNIQUE NO. 11 IS SIGNED ONLY BY LUDWIK COHN, EDWARD LIPINSKI, AND ANIELA SEINSBERGOWA. THE AUTHORS STATE THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT IN JAIL ARE ON VACATION. THE COMMUNIQUE SUGGESTS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A FURTHER REDUCTION OF WDC ACTIVITY AMONG THE WORKERS, MENTIONING ONLY MATERIAL AID GIVEN TO WORKERS IN PLOCK AND GRUDZIADZ AND COOPERATION WITH LODZ WORKERS THREATENED BY THE SECRET POLISH. IT ALSO CHRONICLES ONGOING RETRIALS OF WORKERS FROM URSUS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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RADOM. IT REPORTS THAT TWELVE GDANSK WORKERS FIRED TO STRIKING IN JUNE 1976, APPEALED TO THE SEJM FOR A REVIEW OF THEIR CASE. IT LISTS INSTANCES OF "FINANCIAL REPRESSION" WHERE WORKERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE DEMONSTRATIONS NEW RECEIVE MINIMUM SALARIES.

4. THE BULK OF THE 17-PAGE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS SOCIAL PROTEST AND INSTANCES OF REPRESSION THROUGHOUT POLAND. IT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS: THE "BUREAU OF INTERVENTION" SET UP IN JUNE HAS HANDLED SIXTEEN CASES DEALING WITH POLICE BRUTALITY AND ILLEGAL DISMISSAL FROM WORK; POLICE DETAINED PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED MEMORIAL MASSES FOR STANISLAW PYJAS IN LODZ AND GDANSK; THE OFFICIAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION (SZSP) HELD MEETINGS IN GDANSK AND LODZ AIMED AT DISCREDITING THE WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE; IN WARSAW, GRADE-SCHOOL STUDENTS WERE ASKED ABOUT THE WDC IN QUESTIONNAIRES AND SOME PARENTS WERE LATER QUESTIONED; SIGNERS OF PROTEST PETITIONS IN LODZ AND WARSAW FOUND THEMSELVES JOBLESS OR THEIR JOBS THREATENED; WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COLLABORATORS WERE FINED FOR HOLDING "ILLEGAL MEETINGS" AND OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE DURING AN APARTMENT SEARCH; A COURT SUSPENDED ACTION AGAINST PEOPLE WHO BEAT UP WDC MEMBERS DURING COURT HEARINGS IN RADOM IN DECEMBER, 1976.

5. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO REPRTS ADDITIONAL PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE JAILED MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS DEFENSE COMMITTEE (REF A): 43 SCIENTISTS FROM WROCLAW AND 629 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS HAVE PETITIONED THE AUTHORITIES FOR RELEASE OF THE WDC LEADERS. THE COMMUNIQUE REPORTS NO NEWS OF THE JAILED COMMITTEE MEMBERS THEMSELVES, OTHER THAN THE RELEASE OF JAN JOZEF LIPSKI ON JUNE 8 FOLLOWING A HEART ATTACK.

6. A WESTERN DIPLOMAT TOLD US THAT PZPR SECRETARY EDWARD BABIUCH ASSURED WILLY BRANDT DURING HIS LATE JUNE VISIT HERE THAT POLISH AUTHORITIES PLANNED TO SHOW AS MUCH LENIENCY TOWARDS THE DISSIDENTS AS CONDITIONS PERMITTED. OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUE TOOK THIS TO MEAN THAT POLAND IS UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE SOVIET UNION TO TAKE A HARDER CONFIDENTIAL

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LINE AGAINST THE WDC. HOWEVER, A POLITYKA JOURNALIST TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER ON JULY 7 THAT INTERNAL PARTY CONFLICT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HARDER POLICY TOWARD DISSIDENTS. ACCORDING TO HIM, GIEREK AND THE "DOVES" HAVE COME UNDER INCREASING HIGH-LEVEL CRITICISM FOR THEIR HANDLING OF THE PROTEST MOVEMENT. DESPITE A CONTINUED DETERMINATION TO AVOID HARSH MEASURES, HE SAID, THE GIEREK LEADERSHIP HAS FOUND ITS FREEDOM OF MANEUVER SERIOUSLY HAMPERED. HE SAID THE CONFLICT HAD SHARPENED TO THE POINT THAT POLITYKA EDITOR MIECZYSLAW RAKOWSKI FELT OBLIGED TO GIVE GIEREK HIS FULL SUPPORT IN AN EDITORIAL THIS WEEK. THE JOURNALIST CONDLUDED THAT THE DISSIDENTS MAY YET BE RELEASED QUIETLY, BUT HE SAID THE DECISION WILL REQUIRE INCREASED POLITICAL STRENGTH ON THE PART OF THE LEADERSHIP. WE NOTE IN PASSING THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF THE WDC BY THE POLISH PRESS IN RECENT WEEKS. GIEREK IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE SEJM ON MAY 30 NEITHER ALLUDED TO THE WDC NOR MADE ANY THREATS AGAINST THE DISSIDENTS (REF B).  
DAVIES

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